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Amendments to the Claims**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Claim 1 (Original): A compound that is effective in inducing expression of proteins under control of a lac-based promoter, said compound being stable at ambient temperatures.

Claim 2 (Original): The compound of claim 1 that is a C-glycoside analog of isopropyl- β -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG).

Claim 3 (Original): A C-glycoside analog of IPTG.

Claim 4 (Original): The C-glycoside of claim 3 that is functionally equivalent to IPTG.

Claim 5 (Original): The C-glycoside of claim 4 whereby the recombinant proteins are under control of the lac promoter.

Claim 6 (Original): The C-glycoside of claim 3 that is stable at ambient temperatures.

Claim 7 (Original): The C-glycoside of claim 2 that is isobutyl-C-galactoside (IBCG), its analogues, biologically active salt forms, and optical isomers thereof.

Claim 8 (Original): Isobutyl-C-galactoside.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A method of inducing protein expression comprising: adding a C-glycoside of IPTG to a bacterial culture.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 9 whereby the bacterial culture is *Escherichia coli*.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn)): The method of claim 10 whereby the C-glycoside of IPTG binds with the lac repressor in the *Escherichia coli*.

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Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 9 whereby the C-glycoside is added to a final concentration of between about 0.05-2.0 mM.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 9 that does not require multiple additions of the C-glycoside.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 9 further including the step of storing the C-glycoside at ambient temperature.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 9 whereby the C-glycoside of IPTG is IBCG, its analogues, biologically active salt forms, and optical isomers thereof.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A method of synthesizing a C-glycoside of IPTG comprising: treating galactose pentaacetate with methyltrimethylsilane in the presence of boron trifluoride etherate.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): A method of synthesizing a C-glycoside of IPTG comprising: treating a halo-acetogalactose with an excess of an organomagnesium halide to provide a C-linked glycoside.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 17 further including the step of deprotecting acetyl groups in the C-linked glycoside with sodium methoxide.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): A method of inducing protein expression comprising adding a C-glycoside of IPTG to a plant cell.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 19 wherein the plant cell comprises an expression system having a lac-based promoter.

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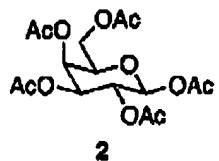
Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 19 wherein the lac-based promoter is a *lac* promoter.

Claim 22 (Original): The C-glycoside of claim 3 that is functional as a galactose substitute.

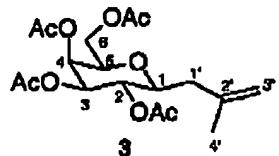
Claim 23 (Original): The compound of claim 1 wherein the lac-based promoter is selected from the group consisting of lac, tac, and trc.

Claim 24 (Original): The compound of claim 23 wherein the promoter is an *Escherichia coli* *lac* promoter.

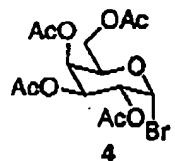
Claim 25 (Withdrawn): A caged compound of formula:



Claim 26 (Withdrawn): A caged compound of formula:



Claim 27 (Withdrawn): A caged compound of formula:



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Claim 28 (Withdrawn): A caged compound of formula:

